Permission to Industrial Units for Importing Duty-Free Capital goods against Export Obligation

*53. SHRI N.E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to permit industrial units to import duty-free capital goods against export obligation;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had allowed duty-free import of capital goods in certain sectors earlier also but the same did not yield the desired results; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative what are the considerations which weighed in favour of taking a decision as mentioned in part (a) above?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) As per available information with Department of Revenue, the Government has not permitted duty-free import to capital goods against export obligation to the units located in the Domestic Tariff Area.

(d) The question does not arise.

'Lehar Pepsi' as Pepsi Brand name

*54. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the *Times of India* of 8th April, 1990 to the effect that Pepsi Foods are being allowed to use the name 'Lehar Pepsi';

(b) if so, whether 'Lehar Pepsi' is a brand name;

(c) whether it would become an Indian brand name by usage; and

(d) whether it would be registered as a brand name owned by M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited, Chandigarh?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). After considering all aspects of the matter, Government decided that the brand name to be used shall be a hybrid with 'Pepsi' as suffix. Discussions were held with representatives of M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited and thereafter it was decided that 'Lehar' could be used as prefix to the name 'Pepsi', '7 Up' and 'Mirinda'.

M/s. Pepsi Foods Private Limited have intimated that they have applied for the registration of 'Lehar' trade mark with the Registrar of Trade Marks.

Setting up of a National Irrigation Finance Corporation

*55. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) wheather Government propose to establish a National Irrigation Finance Corporation to finance execution of irrigation projects; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). There has been a proposal for setting up of an

Irrigation Finance Corporation to provide funds in the form of loan to some large Nationally important irrigation projects for their expeditious completion. But no decision in the matter is yet reached.

U.S. threat in the event of India's failure to comply with the bilateral Agreements on Export subsidies

*56. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to 1990 National Trade estimate report on foreign trade barriers sent by the US administration to the Congress;

(b) whether the US administration has warned that if India failed to comply with the bilateral agreements on the issue of export subsidies, the US would take appropriate counter steps;

(c) if so, what is the precise nature of the treat; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c). The 1990 Trade Estimates Report mentions *inter-alia* that if it is determined that India is not acting in compliance with the bilateral agreement on the issue of export subsidies, the United States will take appropriate steps which could include revoking the injury test in US countervailing duty cases.

(d) Government of India is of the view that it has not been acting inconsistently with the provisions of the bilateral agreement on export subsidies with the United States. Further, India's actions are in accordance with the relevant provisions of the GATT Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, which deal with special situation of developing countries.

Foreign investments in India

*57. SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the areas where foreign investments would be especially welcome by Government in India and the conditions attached thereto;

(b) whether Government propose to eliminate any restrictions in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's present policy about encouraging foreign investments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c). The basic framework of our foreign investment policy is laid down in various documents including the Industrial Policy Resolution. Our approach is selective. In line with our priorities, the policy permits technical as well as financial collaborations over a wide range of industrial activities. The policy is well established and facilitates direct foreign investment in desirable areas, particularly areas of high technology and exports.

Export by Pepsi Foods

*58. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pepsi Foods have exported items worth Rs. 13 crore through Pepsi World Trade as a goodwill gesture;

(b) if so, what are the items exported; and